

LANCASTER
Rural District Council.


MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT

FOR

1897.

LANCASTER:
PRINTED AT THE "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, CHURCH STREET,

1898.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29718910>

Annual Report for 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lancaster Rural District Council.

Mr. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting to you my Annual Report upon the sanitary condition of your district during the year 1897, I have great pleasure in stating that several matters which have long required attention are receiving the consideration of the Authority. I refer especially to the provision of Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases, the water supply of certain portions of the district, and the visitation of notified cases of infectious disease. I hope that, during the year 1898, these matters may be settled in a manner consonant with the demands of modern sanitary science.

Population.—At the middle of the year 1897, I estimate the population of the whole district to be 12,517, divided among the four sub-districts as follows :—

Lancaster Sub-District.. ..	3,691
Heaton Sub-District	1,434
Warton Sub-District	3,678
Ellel Sub-District	3,714
Total	12,517

The Midland Railway Works in the Parish of Heysham have, in the latter portion of the year, brought a considerable number of workmen into the sub-district of Heaton. No account has been taken of them in the statistics for 1897, but when the work gets more advanced allowance will have to be made for the floating population.

Death-Rate.—The total deaths occurring in the district in 1897 numbered 208, of which 107 were those of males and 101 those of females; 65 were under 5 years and 143 over that age. These 208 deaths give an annual death-rate from all causes of 16·61 per 1,000 of population—an increase of 1·3 upon the death-rate for 1896.

Deaths during 1897 in the whole district (exclusive of the Royal Albert Asylum) numbered 197, equal to an annual corrected death-rate of 16·60 per 1,000 of population.

This, compared with 1896, shews an increase in both the gross and corrected death-rates.

The deaths in the Royal Albert Asylum during 1897 numbered 11; the previous year these deaths numbered 18, and in 1895 23.

Zymotic Death-Rate.—The deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases in 1897 numbered 18, namely:—

Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	..	5
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	..	6
Puerperal Fever..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Measles..	..	..	..	..	..	5
						—
						18

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate for the whole district during the year 1897 of 1·43 per 1,000 of population.

During 1896 nineteen deaths were attributed to these causes—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate for the whole district of 1·53 per per 1,000 of population. These deaths were as under:—

Whooping Cough	...	...	...	..	...	7
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	7
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	..	3
Puerperal Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						19

Smallpox.—Fortunately no case of this disease has occurred in the Authority's district during the past year. I say fortunately, as the provision of accommodation for this disease is, as yet, only under discussion. Provision should be made with as little delay as possible, as the navvies employed on the construction of the Heysham Dock are liable to introduce the disease at any time from the north-east coast, where it is now raging.

Scarlet Fever.—No deaths have been attributed to this disease during 1897, although a few cases were notified.

It is now three years since a death from Scarlet Fever was registered in the district of this Authority.

Puerperal Fever.—One death only has been registered as due to this cause in 1897—equal to an annual death-rate of $\cdot 79$ per 1,000 of population. Every year one or two deaths are registered as due to this cause.

During the last two or three years a new method of treating this disease has been discovered. By means of antistreptococcic serum a great many lives have been saved, and it may not be too much to hope that in the not far distant future this exceedingly fatal disease may be robbed of its terrors.

Measles.—This disease prevailed during the spring of 1897, an extension of the epidemic which was prevalent in the Borough of Lancaster. The sub-districts which were chiefly affected were Lancaster and Ellel. The exact numbers were as follows :—

	Cases.			Deaths.		
Lancaster Sub-District	106	...	3	
Heaton Sub-District	4	...	0	
Warton Sub-District	6	...	0	
Ellel Sub-District	211	...	1	
			<hr/>		<hr/>	
			327	...	4	

—shewing a case mortality of 1·22 percentage of attacks.

I hope that before we are visited by another epidemic we shall be in a better position to cope with this disease. In my Annual Report for 1896 I enumerated six matters in connection with this disease which require attention. The visitation of these cases is urgently required, otherwise I fail to see the utility of notification and its consequent expense. Some hospital provision is also required to isolate the earliest cases. As matters stand at present nothing whatever is done in the district to prevent the occurrence of this disease.

The action of the Local Government Board in making allowance for the absence of individual children from school, owing to infectious disease, is a step in the right direction, always presuming that the absence of the scholar from school is due to the action of the Sanitary Authority and is within its cognisance.

Diarrhœa—In 1897 seven deaths were registered from this cause—exactly the same number as last year. Five occurred in Lancaster, one in Warton, and one in Ellel. One of the cases in Lancaster and one in Warton were probably not of a zymotic character.

The following table shews the months in which these deaths occurred:—

Deaths from Diarrhœa.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	2	..	...	...	7

from which it appears that most of the deaths occurred in the three warmest months of the year.

Diphtheria.—The improvement which I noted last year has continued—2 cases only have been notified, both of which recovered.

Last year three cases were notified with recovery in each case. From 2 to 5 cases of this disease are reported each year, principally from farm houses. This disease appears to originate on the spot, and there is no doubt it is very frequently associated with the presence of the old-fashioned dunghill in too close proximity to the dwelling-house or to the contamination of the drinking supply by the liquids flowing therefrom.

Whooping Cough.—One death only is registered from this cause in 1897 against 7 deaths in 1896. The death occurred in the Ellet Sub-District, where, I learn, the disease was more or less epidemic.

Phthisis.—This disease is responsible for six deaths only in 1897, as against 18 in 1896. These six deaths are equal to an annual phthisical death-rate of $\cdot 47$ per 1,000 of population.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.—Thirty-eight deaths were attributed to this disease in 1897—equal to a death-rate from this cause of $3\cdot 03$ per 1,000 of population.

Eleven occurred in children under 5 years and 27 in persons over that age.

In 1896, twenty-eight such deaths were registered, equal to a death-rate from this cause of $2\cdot 25$ per 1,000 of population.

Eight of these deaths occurred in children under 5 years and 20 in persons over that age.

Heart Disease.—This year shews a marked increase in deaths from this cause, 22 such deaths having been registered—equal to an annual death-rate from this cause of $1\cdot 83$ per 1,000 of population.

In 1896 there were 12 such deaths—equal to a death-rate of $\cdot 96$ per 1,000 of population.

Injuries.—Death from injuries amounted to eight—equal to an annual death-rate from this cause of '63 per 1,000 of population.

Infantile Death-Rate.—The deaths of 44 infants under 1 year were registered in 1897—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 119 per 1,000 registered births.

The various causes of these deaths are shewn in detail in Table E, which also gives the localities in which they occurred.

In 1896 thirty-six such deaths occurred—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 105 per 1,000 registered births.

There appears to be a considerable increase going on in these premature deaths, out of all proportion to the growth of the population.

I add a Table shewing the state of affairs in the last 8 years :—

Year.	Population.	No. of Deaths under 1 year.	Infantile death-rate to 1000 births.
1890	14,699	41	105
1891	14,531	48	122
1892	14,837	40	98
1893	14,824	73	176
1894	14,791	38	94
1895	12,303	30	101
1896	12,410	36	105
1897	12,517	44	119

Births.—Three hundred and sixty-nine births have been registered in 1897—equal to an annual birth-rate of 29·47 per 1,000 of population. Of these births, 217 were those of males and 152 those of females.

In 1896 three hundred and forty-one births were registered (169 males and 172 females)—equal to an annual birth-rate of 27·47 per 1,000 of population.

The following table shews the number of births in each Sub-district in 1897, distinguishing males and females, and giving the birth-rate :—

	Births in 1897.		Total Number.	Birth-rate per 1000 p.
	Males.	Females.		
Lancaster Sub-district... ..	66	48	114	30·88
Heaton Sub-district	19	11	30	20·92
Warton Sub-district	55	51	106	28·82
Ellel Sub-district	77	42	119	32·04
District Total	217	152	369	29·47

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Four hundred and nineteen cases of Infectious Disease have been notified to me during 1897, as against 202 cases in 1896.

The following are the figures for 1897, showing also the localities affected :—

1897.	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Rotheln.	Puerperal Fever.	Totals.
Lancaster Sub-district	17	1	106	...	...	124
Heaton Sub-district	6	...	7	2	4	...	1	20
Warton Sub-district	1	1	4	6	32	...	44
Ellel Sub-district	9	1	7	2	211	...	1	231
Totals	15	2	32	9	327	32	2	419

For 1896 the localities and diseases were as follows :—

1896.	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Rotheln.	Totals.
Lancaster Sub-district	1	1	1	5	...	128	9	145
Heaton Sub-district... ..	...	8	...	3	...	2	2	15
Warton Sub-district ... ..	...	5	1	8	2	3	13	32
Ellel Sub-district ... ..	...	2	1	3	1	2	1	10
Totals	1	16	3	19	3	135	25	202

LANCASTER SUB-DISTRICT.

Deaths occurring in this Sub-district during 1897, 59—equal to an annual death-rate of 15·98 per 1,000 of population.

Eleven deaths occurred in the Royal Albert Asylum—deducting these, the true death-rate of the District is obtained, namely 15·81.

In 1896 the gross deaths were 60, giving a death-rate of 16·82 per 1,000 of population, and the corrected deaths 42—equal to a corrected death-rate of 14·42 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases were, in 1897, 12—as follows:—

Enteric Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
							—
							12

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 3·25 per 1,000 of population.

Seven such deaths occurred in 1896, viz. :—

Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						7

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·96 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 12—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 105 per 1,000 registered births.

In 1896 there were 13 such deaths—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 120 per 1,000 registered births.

The **Births** of 114 infants were registered as occurring in the Sub-district during 1897—equal to an annual birth-rate of 30·88 per 1,000 of population.

Of these 114 infants, 66 were males and 48 females.

In 1896 the births numbered 108, consisting of an equal number of males and females, and equal to an annual birth-rate of 30·27 per 1,000 of population.

HEATON SUB-DISTRICT.

Deaths occurring in this Sub-district during the year 1897 numbered 35—equal to an annual death-rate of 24·40 per 1,000 of population.

In the year 1896 30 deaths were registered—equal to an annual death-rate of 21·08 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases were 2 in number, namely :—

Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	..	...	...	1
							—
							2

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·30 per 1,000 of population.

In 1896 there were also 2 deaths from this class of disease, both being caused by Diarrhœa, and equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·40 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 6—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 200 per 1,000 registered births.

In 1896 the deaths of these infants also numbered six, but owing to the greater number of births, the infantile death-rate was 130 per 1,000 registered births.

Births during 1897 numbered 30—equal to an annual birth-rate of 20·92 per 1,000 of population.

These 30 births were 19 males and 11 females.

In 1896 there were 46 births (21 males and 25 females) equal to an annual birth-rate of 32·32 per 1,000 of population.

WARTON SUB-DISTRICT.

During 1897, 64 deaths occurred in this Sub-district—equal to an annual death-rate of 17·40 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths in 1896 numbered 50, equal to annual death-rate of 13·49 per 1,000 of population.

Deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases in 1897 were 2 in number :—

Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/>
							2

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of ·54 per 1,000 of population.

In 1896 these deaths numbered 4, viz. :—

Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							<hr/>
							4

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·08 per 1,000 of population.

The deaths of children under 1 year of age numbered in 1897 13, equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 122 per 1,000 registered births.

In 1896, 9 such deaths were registered, equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 96 per 1,000 registered births.

Births registered during 1897 numbered 106 (55 males and 51 females)—equal to an annual birth-rate of 28·82 per 1,000 of population.

In 1896, 93 births were registered, consisting of 48 males and 45 females, and equal to an annual birth-rate of 25·10 per 1,000 of population,

ELLEL SUB-DISTRICT.

Deaths occurring in this Sub-district during 1897 numbered 50—equal to an annual death-rate of 13·46 per 1,000 of population.

In 1896 there were also registered 50 deaths—equal, owing to the variation of population, to an annual death-rate of 13·45 per 1,000 of population.

Deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases during 1897 were 3 in number, viz. :—

Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/>
							3

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of ·80 per 1,000 of population.

In 1896 there were 6 such deaths, viz. :—

Whooping Cough...	..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/>
							6

—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·64 per 1,000 of population.

Of infants under 1 year old, there were 13 deaths registered—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 109 per 1,000 registered births.

In 1896 there were 8 such deaths of infants—equal to an annual infantile death-rate of 85 per 1,000 registered births.

Births registered during 1897 were 119—77 of these being males and 42 females—equal to an annual birth-rate of 32·04 per 1,000 of population.

Births during 1896 numbered 94 (46 males and 48 females), equal to an annual birth-rate of 25·29 per 1,000 of population.

Last year I mentioned five matters to which attention had many times previously been called. I think the best course to pursue will be to state briefly how these matters stand at the present time.

Provision of one or more Isolation Hospitals :—

The attention of the Authority has been called to this matter by the Local Government Board, and I am pleased to note that, as a result, meetings have been called of this and neighbouring Authorities with a view to the erection of joint hospitals, with separate provision for smallpox. I wish these efforts all success, as such hospital accommodation is urgently needed.

Assistance for Surveyor in his capacity of Sanitary Inspector :—

This matter has been deferred until the time for the annual appointment of the Surveyor. In the meantime I have, as requested, included in this report "full information as to the manner in which the work of the Inspector of Nuisances has been carried out in the District during the year." This information will be found at the end of this report.

Water Supply to certain parts of the District :—

This matter is also *sub judice* and awaiting a detailed report from me as to the amount and quality of the supply of water to the houses and farms of the District. I hope to present my report to you upon this matter before very long, but this

portion of the year is not the time when matters are at their worst. I understand that, in some cases, advantage is being taken of the delay to remedy some faults.

The provision of a portable Steam Disinfector :—

Nothing has as yet been done in this matter, neither is it under consideration at present. No doubt it will receive attention in its turn. I do not see how any really efficient disinfection can be carried on without its aid.

The extension of the Galgate Water Supply in'to the houses of the village :—

In this matter also no steps have as yet been taken. During 1897 Members of the Authority had, I understand, the advantage of seeing the kind of water which was being supplied to the inhabitants of Galgate. The specimens spoke for themselves; there is no need to say more about the matter. Not one member present would have cared to drink the water, the state of which was said to be due to the want of filters. One of Halliday's gold medal double-cylinder, high-pressure self-cleansing filters has now been fitted. I am not personally acquainted with these filters, but I hear that the water is much improved since it was fitted. I suggest that the water should now be analysed.

Again I have to put on record an increasing death-rate for the district, a slightly lessened zymotic death-rate, and an increased birth-rate.

The following table shews the state of affairs during the last five years :—

	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Birth-rate.
1893	17·13	2·29	27·92
1894	15·35	·74	27·11
1895	13·65	·97	24·14
1896	13·86	1·53	27·47
1897	16·60	1·43	29·47

As I have shewn elsewhere, the deaths in the Royal Albert Asylum are much less this year than for some time previously, so that it necessarily follows that many more deaths than usual have occurred in the remainder of the District.

Last year the highest death-rate occurred in the Sub-district of Heaton, and again this year the same result appears.

I have again for readiness of reference arranged the figures in tabular form :—

Names of Sub-districts.	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897
Lancaster	23·40	18·23	19·45	16·82	15·98
Lancaster <i>without</i> R.A.A	21·43	13·65	15·78	14·42	15·81
Heaton	15·83	18·57	16·28	21·08	24·40
Warton	18·24	16·92	13·94	13·49	17·40
Ellel	15·60	12·63	13·17	13·45	13·17

From the above it can be seen that in two Sub-districts the death-rate has decreased, whilst there has been an increase in the other two Sub-districts. With regard to the Sub-district of Heaton the calculation is made upon the census of 1891 plus the natural yearly increase.

Building is progressing at a great pace in the district, and as previously stated the Midland Railway Dock Works have brought together a great many men from various parts. To such a degree has this been the case as to make it impossible to estimate accurately the population of this Sub-district.

The death-rate of infants under 1 year in 1897 has risen to 119 per 1,000 registered births. In 1896 the rate was 105 per 1,000 registered births.

Again I give you a table shewing the births, deaths of infants under 1 year, and the rate such deaths bear to 1,000 births :—

1897.	Lancaster.	Heaton.	Warton.	Ellel.
Births	114	30	106	119
Deaths under 1 year ...	12	6	13	13
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	105	200	122	109
1896.	Lancaster.	Heaton.	Warton.	Ellel.
Births	108	46	93	94
Deaths under 1 year ...	13	6	9	8
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	120	130	96	103

The rate for the County of Lancashire in 1896 in Rural Districts was 127 per 1,000 registered births, so that the rate for this District is below the average. Nevertheless, I think that the rate is far too high considering the occupation of the inhabitants and the healthy District in which they live.

With regard to the zymotic death-rate of the district, there is this year a slight reduction—from 1·53 to 1·43 per 1,000 of population.

As regards the Sub-districts, the incidence of the attacks and deaths and death-rate from this cause is shewn hereunder :—

	Notified cases.	Number of deaths	Death-rate per 1,000 of population.
Lancaster sub-district	124	12	3·25
Heaton sub-district	20	2	1·30
Warton sub-district	44	2	·54
Ellel sub-district	231	3	·80
District Totals	419	19	5·89

This year the most unfavourable position is occupied by Lancaster Sub-district. Many of the deaths occurred in the new houses on the Ridge Mill Estate, and although the drainage of the District was thoroughly examined, no defects were found. The milk supply of each affected house was obtained from so many different sources, that the tracing of the source of the infection was much complicated thereby—many households obtaining their supply from three or four different sources in one week.

The Heysham drainage and water supply schemes are to be carried out in 1898, and will no doubt greatly contribute to the lessening of the death-rate in that Sub-district.

Scavenging and Removal of Refuse.—The scavenging of the District has been carried out in a fairly satisfactory manner during the year 1897. The removal is by contract, and I do not know of any way in which it could be more satisfactorily affected with a due regard to cost. The district being a rural one, I think the application of these matters to the land is the most satisfactory method of disposal.

Sewers.—The sewers of the Authority in the various villages have been kept in good order during the past year. The Slyne and Hest Bank sewers are acting satisfactorily, and there has been an extension of the sewerage system at Scotforth. It is intended shortly to commence the sewerage of Heysham, the loan for which has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board, and some further extension of the sewerage at Bolton is contemplated.

Common Lodging-Houses.—The district boasts of one common lodging-house only, situated in Dudley, which is really a portion of Carnforth. It is a well-conducted house as far as I can ascertain—no complaints ever reaching me.

Inspection of the District.—This matter has been well looked after during the past year. Yealand, Bulk, Overton, Heaton, and Glasson Dock having been thoroughly gone over—the last three on more than one occasion.

Canal Boats.—The Inspector made 46 visits to the canal boats and found only two infringements of the bye-laws, of very minor importance. No prosecution was deemed necessary, and generally the condition of the boats was very good.

Ridge Lane.—The state of this short piece of road is precisely what it was last year, and has been for some years past. Its condition is not improved by the uncertainty which exists, as to whose duty it is to keep it in order. If, as the year goes on, it becomes as bad as it usually does, I shall feel it my duty to certify it as a nuisance.

The Parish Councils.—There are fifteen Parish Councils in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District.

Their duties are, amongst other matters, to take cognisance of sanitary affairs in the parish for which they are elected.

Last year, in my report, owing to friction which had arisen with the Yealand Parish Council, I invited those of the Parishes Councils who were dissatisfied with the sanitary state of their parish to communicate with me, hoping thus to inaugurate a most satisfactory state of things. I, however, during 1897, heard nothing from these Parish Councils, so naturally concluded that satisfaction prevailed. Instead of this, I find from the local papers that the Yealand Council is still dissatisfied, and advocates the division of the district into several sanitary areas. Would it not have been better for the Yealand Council to have consulted the Medical Officer of the District instead of taking this course?

The Yealand Parish Council is presided over by a gentleman who has had considerable experience in sanitary affairs, and one who ought to know the proper way to manage these matters. Has the Council overruled its Chairman, or has the Chairman not given it the benefit of his experience? If the members of the Yealand Council are not satisfied with the present sanitary state of the district, let them pursue the right course, and communicate with me in an official manner.

Last year, through their instrumentality, the aid of the County Medical Officer was requested, without any intimation of the fact to me.

He inspected the parish and reported favourably on it to this Authority.

With regard to the removal of refuse in sparsely inhabited rural districts, I think each property owner should do the little removal of refuse which is required himself, instead of requesting in a helpless manner, as is too commonly the case, the Sanitary Authority of the district to do it for him. This, of course, is not the case in large villages and towns. Perhaps the establishment of allotments might help in the disposal of refuse, although, I am sorry to say, landed proprietors are sometimes averse to their provision.

Daries, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops.—During 1897 this Authority has made regulations under the Local Government Board Order, 1885, to come into force on March 25th, 1898.

I am pleased to note that this is so, because previously we had absolutely no regulations. At the same time I feel compelled to add, that the whole measure is rendered null and void by making these regulations apply to new buildings only. Few cowsheds are built in this district each year, and no doubt in the future, owing to these very regulations, the erection of new buildings will be a rarer event than ever; this, in my opinion, is to be deplored, as most of the existing buildings are not in accordance with modern requirements. I understand the air space ordered per cow is 500 cubic feet, whereas the proper quantity should be from 800 to 1,000 cubic feet.

Owing to the grave danger to the public health, which has arisen from the spread of tuberculosis among cattle—a danger due not only to the ingestion of the flesh of such animals, but also to the consumption of their raw milk, I am of opinion that the time is now ripe for legislative regulation of the traffic in flesh and milk. I think that all cattle should periodically be tested with Koch's tuberculin test, and those found infected destroyed. Local authorities should be compelled to see that all houses in which cows or bulls are kept are in a sanitary state, structurally and otherwise, and that the water supply for the occupants is good and sufficient.

The Duties of the Inspector of Nuisances.—In fulfilment of the request made by the Local Government Board, that I should in this my Annual Report give you full information as to the manner in which the work of the Inspector of Nuisances has been carried out in the district during the year, I beg to offer for your consideration the following remarks:—

In this Rural Sanitary District the office of Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances is combined. The extent of the district is 55,174 acres, and it embraces in all twenty-one parishes and townships.

The duties of the Surveyor comprise the preparation of plans, &c., for water supplies and for sewers; also the superintendence of the sanitary work of new buildings, as well as the flushing and keeping in good working order of all sewers in the district.

In 1897 there were notified 419 cases of infectious disease:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Measles...	...	...	...	...	...	...	327
Rötheln ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Puerperal	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							<hr/>
							419

These cases received 49 visits, representing one visit to each case of Enteric Fever, Scarlet Fever, and Diphtheria. The rest of the cases, 370 in number, received no visits, and for all practical purposes might never have been notified.

Every notified case of infectious disease, no matter what its character, should be not once nor twice, but repeatedly visited, and means taken to insist that disinfection and isolation is properly carried out; this obviously is an impossibility under the present circumstances. In addition, an inspection should be made of cowsheds and dairies to ensure their being kept in sanitary condition, so as to render the chance of the public imbibing with their milk the germs of infectious disease as remote as possible.

What I contend is that the Inspector of Nuisances is so occupied, and his time is so taken up by the duties of Surveyor in preparation of plans, superintending the due execution of the various sewer and water schemes, flushing sewers, &c., that he has not sufficient time to visit the various cases of infectious disease and see to the disinfection of the houses and their drains, &c., in the proper manner.

The remedy advocated by me for the improvement of this state of affairs is the provision of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

I am aware that at present the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor has a pupil, but I consider that this is not affording him the requisite assistance. What is required is the assistance of an experienced sanitary inspector acting under his direction.

It is not that I consider the sanitary work inefficiently executed, but I want to see very much more sanitary work done.

I append a list of the principal items of work done by the combined Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances in 1897. It must be remembered that superintending the erection of a ventilating shaft, the building of a sewer, or supervising the erection of a filter house, is not one day's work but several. Take the making of a new street for example. First there is the notices to the owners to send their preparation of plans, sections, specifications, estimates, and provisional apportionment. preparation and consideration of tenders and contracts, the superintendence of the work, and finally measuring up and inspecting and the preparation of the final apportionments :—

January.

Attending to various nuisances at Glasson Dock.

Attending to nuisances at a house on Cockerham Marsh and disinfecting it.

Preparing specifications, measuring, levelling, &c., new streets at Skerton.

Preparing for the building of new filter house at Galgate.

Attending to the cleaning out and filling up of an open foul ditch at Priest Hutton and laying sanitary pipes.

Superintending erection of shaft and ventilator to sewer at Bolton.

Attending to three cases of scarlet fever at Heysham - cases isolated and premises disinfected.

Attendance at Magistrates' Court, &c., as to street improvements at Skerton and Scotforth.

Preparation of plans of proposed sewerage system at Heysham, taking levels, measuring, &c.

Inspection, &c., of Railway and Harbour Works at Heysham.

Inquiry as to breach of building bye-laws at Galgate, interviewing owner, reporting same to District Council, and subsequently seeing that the work was pulled down.

February.

Preparing plans, getting out estimates, and obtaining tenders for bridge over Whitely Beck to prevent fouling of Galgate Water Supply.

Visiting and disinfecting three cases of enteric fever at Galgate.

Preparing specifications, measuring, levelling, &c., new street at Scotforth.

Preparing tenders for same.

Setting out and superintending building of filter house at Galgate.

Attending to three cases of enteric fever, defective drain made good and disinfected, cases isolated and disinfectants supplied.

Visiting case of enteric fever at Bulk, disinfecting house and drains.

Cutting out pipes and fixing new valves in water mains at Galgate.

Cleaning out feed pipe to ram at Glasson.

Attending and explaining to Chairman of Heysham Parish Council proposed system of drainage.

Attending and disinfecting houses and drains of fever cases at Heysham.

Inspecting new building at Heysham.

Notice as to offensive stable at Bulk and seeing to the removal of the nuisance.

- Attending meeting of Parish Council, Heysham, as to proposed sewerage scheme.
- Inspecting canal boats.
- Measuring and levelling for new streets at Lune Bank estate, Skerton.
- Attending to sewers at Bowerham, and arranging with Mr. Laycock as to a flusher for the same.
- Visiting case of diphtheria at Glasson Dock, inspecting drains, water supply, &c.
- Interviewing Mr. Moore as to proposed drains on Battery Inn estate, Heysham.
- Interviewing Mr. Tattersall as to drains not properly ventilated, seeing to fixing of ventilators, and testing drains with smoke rockets.
- Inspecting houses at Bulk.
- Preparing for new streets Sea View estate, Heysham.
- Visiting case of enteric fever at Warton, examining and disinfecting drains and premises.

March.

- Visiting house at Warton and disinfecting it.
- Preparing plans of Heysham sewerage scheme.
- Visiting enteric fever case at Burow, inspecting premises and disinfecting same.
- Measuring and levelling, &c., new streets and crossings at Skerton.
- Inspecting self-acting flusher at Warton, and arranging for repairs.
- Inspecting drainage of house at Hampson Green.
- Inspection of Bulk as to the keeping of Fowls.
- Testing filter at Galgate.
- Flushing sewers at Skerton and Warton.

Interviewing Mr. Abbott as to new streets, Battery Inn estate, Heysham.

Inspecting new houses, Edith Street, Skerton.

Flushing sewers at Slyne.

Interviewing Mr. Edmondson as to proposed houses at Hest Bank.

Inspecting new cottages at Silverdale.

Visiting Yealand about nuisance at Burrows Farm.

Flushing sewers at Hest Bank.

Measuring, levelling, &c., new streets at Scotforth.

Flushing sewers at Dudley and Warton.

Writing report as to Yealand.

Flushing sewers at Bolton after thorough examination.

Visiting scarlet fever cases at Old Glasson, disinfecting houses and drains.

Visiting the various water meters to check accounts.

Visiting and inspecting new buildings at Heysham, preparing for new streets.

April.

Attending to nuisances at Dolphinholme.

Inspecting new buildings at Skerton and Slyne.

Preparing and serving notices as to nuisances at Bulk.

Inspecting drains from new houses at Bolton.

General inspection of Yealand.

Plans for new streets and drains to buildings, Sea View Estate, Heysham.

Inspecting new buildings at Sandylands.

Superintending making of new streets at Scotforth.

Visiting enteric fever cases at Glasson Dock, and disinfecting the house.

Examining site of proposed new buildings at Mr. Bolton's, Silverdale.

Preparing report in reply to Yealand Parish Council's letter to this Authority.

Visiting Bowerham with regard to new self-acting flusher.

Meeting Committee at Ortnor as to old bridge and proposed new one.

Measuring, taking levels, &c., for new bridge at Ortnor, and preparing plans.

Examining and flushing sewer outlet at Bolton.

Special inspection of Hazelwood, Silverdale.

Flushing sewers at Hest Bank and Slyne.

Inspecting canal boats.

Taking levels of proposed sewerage scheme at Heysham, and inspecting new buildings there.

Superintending building of self-acting flusher at Bowerham.

Attending magistrates court and giving evidence as to fowl-keeping nuisances in Bulk.

May.

Flushing sewers at Sandylands.

Preparing plans of new buildings on Battery Inn Estate, Heysham.

Connecting drains with sewers at Hest Bank and also at Scotforth.

Flushing sewers at Bolton.

Preparing contract for formation of new streets at Scotforth.

Examining and flushing sewers at Heysham.

Inspection of new buildings at Heysham.

June.

- Inspection of new buildings at Slyne.
- Making plans, estimates, description, and duplicates for new bridge at Ortnier.
- Visiting Bolton as to nuisance by fouling of stream.
- Letters to occupiers of houses from which this nuisance arose.
- Attending the Clerk for consideration of New Bye-laws.
- Laying sewers Battery Inn Estate, Heysham.
- Preparing sections and details of proposed sewers at Heysham.
- Inspecting new streets at Skerton.
- Inspecting reservoir, filter, meter, and source of water supply to reservoir of Galgate water scheme.
- Making plan and section of proposed extension of sewer at Bolton.
- Estimate of proposed water supply for Heysham.
- General inspection of Cockerham.
- Measuring and taking levels for Bolton sewer.
- Attending meeting of Parish Council, Heysham, and explaining proposed water supply.
- Attending to water meters and flushers at Warton.
- Visiting the various water meters to check accounts.

July.

- Inspecting knacker's yard at Bulk.
- Measuring and levelling new streets at Scotforth.
- Measuring and levelling new streets at Skerton.
- Superintending burial of carcase of cow washed up at Sandylands.
- Attending to sewers, Battery Inn Estate, Heysham.
- Preparing plans and estimates of Heysham sewers for Local Government Board.

Taking out valves and re-fixing others in pipes of Galgate water supply.

Inspection of Yealand with the County Medical Officer of Health, and the Clerk to the Yealand Parish Council.

Attending to nuisances at Bulk and writing letters to the owners of the property.

Visiting Yealand as to nuisances.

Inspecting alterations at Mr. Pickle's house, Heysham, the plans having been altered.

Inspecting street alterations, Furness Street, Heysham.

Visiting reservoir of Galgate water supply, which was empty.

Visiting Bolton on account of private drains which were blocked, opening them and making them good.

Visited Bolton as to water supply.

Visiting Yealand as to removal of nuisances.

August.

Attending to nuisance from defective drain at Glasson.

Measuring and inspecting road at Cross Cop, with a view to widening.

Obtained samples of water from Bolton and Hest Bank and sent same for analysis.

Inspecting and examining main sewer at Scotforth.

Preparing plans, sections, estimates, and description of proposed sewers at Heysham, for Local Government Board.

Visiting enteric fever cases at Bulk, disinfecting drains and premises.

Examining drains and public well at Middleton.

Visiting lodging house at Warton.

Inspecting lodging house at Dudley previous to transfer to new keeper.

Cleaning out and renewing filters at Galgate.

Visiting Sandylands and inspecting new streets, sewers, and buildings, and road, with a view to widening it.

Measuring up contract work of new streets at Scotforth.

Attending special committee as to road widening at Cross Cop, Heysham.

Nuisance from pigs at Slyne, obtaining abatement thereof.

September.

Fixing wash-out valves at Galgate.

Inspecting roads at Heysham and Middleton.

Inspecting slaughter-house at Bolton with regard to nuisance, and obtaining thereof.

Inspecting the formation of new streets and building at the Grove, Scotforth.

Inspecting the formation of new streets and buildings at Lune Bank, Skerton.

Inspecting the formation of new streets and buildings at Sandylands.

Visiting Cockerham and Thurnham, and examining all farm houses as to water supply.

Visiting Glasson as to an ashpit nuisance and obtaining abatement thereof.

Examining plans of new buildings.

Visiting Heysham Harbour Works, and inspecting shelters for workmen.

Inspecting the source of Galgate water supply at Yate House.

Flushing sewers at Hest Bank and Slyne.

Flushing sewers at Sandylands.

Inspecting new sewers at Battery Inn Estate, Heysham.

Inspecting new buildings and self-acting flusher at Bowerham.
 Superintending building of new flusher at Hest Bank.
 Attending to nuisance at Glasson Dock.
 Visiting enteric fever cases there, and disinfecting drains and premises.
 Flushing sewers at Bulk.
 Attending to enteric fever cases at Bulk, disinfecting the drains and premises.
 Visiting lodging house at Warton and superintending the erection of new w.c.
 Attending to enteric fever case at Heysham, disinfecting drains and premises.
 Visiting water meters to check accounts.

October.

Inspecting with Medical Officer of Health, houses at Bulk where enteric fever cases had occurred.
 Examining plans of proposed huts and shelters at Heysham Harbour Works.
 Cleaning filter at Galgate and examining leak through bye-wash.
 Taking sample of water at Glasson Dock for analysis, from Mrs. Wolsten's pump.
 Flushing and disinfecting sewers at Bulk.
 Examining well and old buildings at Priest Hutton.
 Attending to over-crowding nuisance at Bulk, and getting it remedied.
 Obtaining sample of water from canal basin, Glasson Dock, and sending it for analysis.
 Attending Local Government Board Enquiry as to proposed sewerage scheme.

General inspection of Yealand.

Inspection of Warton lodging house.

Taking samples of water from farms at Bulk for analysis.

Making enquiries as to a proposed tank wagon for the water supply of the shipping at Glasson.

Making specification for new sewer at Heysham.

Cleaning out flushing pipe at Bolton.

Examining foundations of house at Skerton.

Attending to defective drain at Glasson Dock.

Visiting enteric fever cases at Bulk.

Visiting Bulk to inspect pig-styes.

November.

Emptying and cleansing outlet tank of Warton sewers.

Enquiries, &c., about tank waggon for supply of water to Glasson Dock.

Attending to nuisance at Cross Cop, Heysham.

Investigating complaint of insufficient water supply.

Letters as to nuisance at Bulk and seeing to its removal.

Inspection of Rose Cottage, Bolton.

Inspection of lodging house at Warton.

Cleaning out feed pipe to ram at Glasson Dock.

Preparing a special report on Thurnham water supply.

Visiting enteric fever case at Langthwaite, milk supply stopped for a time, Well contaminated, samples of water taken for analysis, Well cleaned out, and samples of water again taken for analysis.

Preparing forms of tender and quantities for sewers at Heysham.
 Inspecting and clearing County Asylum outlet sewer along Barton Lane.

Conferring with Heysham Committee as to building line.

Attending to enteric fever case at Heysham, defective drains repaired, and together with premises disinfected.

Building flusher at Roseberry Avenue, Scotforth.

Inspecting farms at Bulk as to water supply.

Inspecting drains at Bulk.

December.

Making plan of outlet sewer at Heysham.

Report on water supply at Thurnham.

Attending to enteric fever cases at Bulk.

Attending to enteric fever cases at Overton—cases isolated, disinfectants supplied and seeing to reconstruction of drains.

Accounts and apportionments of cost of new streets at Scotforth.

Testing drains with smoke rockets at Skerton.

Inspecting new buildings at Heysham.

Visiting enteric fever cases at Bulk.

Obtaining removal of Padkin's pigs at Bulk.

Inspecting new buildings and drains at Silverdale.

Inspection of Klondyke and Dawson City at Heysham Harbour Works.

Attending to nuisances on farms in Bulk.

Inspecting drains and tank at Warton.

Preparing reports, journals, and annual statements.

Numbering houses at Skerton.

Visiting the various water meters to check accounts,

In submitting this Report for your consideration I desire to state that its suggestions are made entirely with the view of benefitting the health of the inhabitants of the District, and ameliorating the sanitary defects which are only too apparent in so many instances.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 25th, 1898.

TABLE A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1897, in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.						Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five years of age.																							
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	(i)	1	2	3	4	Fevers.					10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
													Typus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.													
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Pththisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTAL.	
Lancaster	48	12	9	2	2	16	7	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	4	..	..	3	1	..	..	9	21
Royal Albert Asylum	11	..	..	4	5	2	..	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	1	..	..	5	11
Heaton	35	6	4	..	2	10	13	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	1	..	7	10
Warton	64	13	6	2	2	17	24	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	8	10	..	2	22	45
Ellel	50	13	2	2	3	10	20	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	9	4	..	2	19	35
TOTAL ..	208	44	21	10	14	55	64	{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	1	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	5	..	2	6	11	1	1	41	65
								{ Under 5... .. 5 upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	6	27	21	7	71	143		

TABLE B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897, in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District; classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.	Age under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases removed from their homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolated Hospital.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.			1	2	3	4	Fevers.					Membranous Croup.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
Lancaster	2,872	3,691	114	Under 5 .. 5 upwards..	17	1	106

I have no means of ascertaining the ages of these cases.
State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when?—1889. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. No Hospital

TABLE C.
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.
SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1897.

RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF LANCASTER.

Area in Statute Acres, 55,174. Population (Census) 1891, 14,477.
Population, Estimated 1897, 12,517.

Name of Medical Officer of Health :—GEORGE ROGER PARKER. Salary, £50.

Births registered—*Male*, 217 ; *Female*, 152 ; Total, 369.
Deaths registered—*Male*, 107 ; *Female*, 101 ; Total, 208.

Birth Rate, 29·47 ; Death Rate, 16·61 ; Rate of Infant Deaths, under one year, to 1,000 births, 119.

Death Rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, per 1,000 of population, 1·43.

Diseases prevalent. *Measles*. Period. *Spring*.

What action taken? *None except School Closure*. Any Schools Closed? *Three*. If so, for what Disease? *Measles*.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation? *None*.

Is it Joint or otherwise. No. of Beds available for the District.

What were the Cases Treated?

Deaths in Hospital. From what Causes?

How is Disinfection carried out? *Sulphur Fumigation and various disinfectant powders*.

Apparatus used? *None*.

Is the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act in force? *Yes*.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable? *No*.

If so, what are they?

What is the character of House Accommodation? *Good*.

Has any action been taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890"? *No*.

Have any houses condemned as unfit for human habitation been closed or demolished? If so, how many? *No*.

Is the Water Supply good and subject to your inspection? *No*.

Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily? *Yes*.

By Sanitary Authority or Contract? *Contract*.

How is the refuse disposed of? *Applied to the land as manure*.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal? *All sewers discharge into tidal waters*.

Canal Boats. 46—2 *infringements*.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses?

Slaughter Houses?

Lodging Houses? *One in good order*. Are they registered? *Yes*.

Are the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops periodically inspected? *No*.

Have any Regulations been made by your Authority under the Order of the Local Government Board? *Yes*.

What amount of air space in cubic feet is required for each cow? *500 to 600 cubic feet*.

Have the Factories and Workshops been inspected, and with what result? *No*.

Food unfit for Human Consumption. Amount seized? *None*.

Any Special Report of Medical Officer of Health during the year? *No*.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances:

No. of Notices served. 98.

„ Nuisances remedied. 70.

„ Legal Proceedings taken and result. 4—*All Convicted*.

Smoke:

No. of Observations?

„ Legal Proceedings taken and result?

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?

Has the Authority adopted—(a) "The Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890"? *No*.

(b) "The Public Healths Acts Amendment Act, 1890"? *No*.

TABLE D.

Showing the Deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the last two years
in the four Sub-districts.

		Whooping Cough	Diarrhœa.	Puerperal Fever	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Total.
1896.	Lancaster Rural Sub-District	5	2	.....	.....	...	7
	Heaton Sub-District .....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2
	Warton Sub-District	1	2	1	.....	.....	4
	Ellel Sub-District	1	1	1	3	.....	6
1897.	Lancaster Rural Sub-District .....	.....	5	.....	4	3	12
	Heaton Sub-District .....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	2
	Warton Sub-District .....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	2
	Ellel Sub-District	1	1	.....	.....	1	3

TABLE E.

Showing the causes of Deaths in Infants under 1 year old
in the four Sub-districts.

	Lancaster.	Heaton.	Warton.	Ellel.
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	2	1	1	3
Debility .....	...	1	6	...
Enteritis and Gastro- enteritis	1	1	1	4
Tabes Mesenterica and Marasmus .....	...	1	2	...
Premature Birth	1	1	...	2
Diarrhœa	3	...	...	1
Convulsions	1	...	2	...
Malnutrition .....	...	...	..	1
Whooping Cough .....	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis .....	...	...	...	1
Probably Croup	1	...	...	...
Thrush .....	...	...	1	...
Stomatitis	1	...	...	...
Melœna	1	...	...	...
Laryngitis .....	...	1	...	...
Nephritis	1	...	...	...
Totals	12	6	13	13

To the Chairman and Members of the Lancaster Rural District Council.

LADY MAY DAY.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMAN,

I beg to present to you my Report for the quarter ending March 31st, 1897.

Total Deaths in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during this quarter (including 1 at the Royal Albert Asylum) numbered 61—equal to an annual death-rate of 19·49 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding period of 1896 the total deaths (including 5 at the Royal Albert Asylum) numbered 63—equal to an annual death-rate of 20·31 per 1,000 of population.

Of the deaths occurring during the first quarter of 1897, 30 were males and 31 females, 15 being under 5 years of age and 46 over.

During this quarter there were 7 deaths due to the seven principal zymotic diseases, namely:—2 measles, 2 enteric fever, 1 diarrhoea, 1 whooping cough, and 1 puerperal fever—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 2·23 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 2 such deaths registered, viz.:—1 whooping cough and 1 enteric fever—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 0·64 per 1,000 of population.

One hundred and fifty-one notifications of infectious diseases have been received during this quarter, namely:—7 enteric fever, 12 scarlet fever, 125 measles, 4 erysipelas, 2 puerperal fever, and 1 diphtheria.

Births in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during the quarter ending March 31st, 1897, 100, comprised of 66 males and 34 females—equal to an annual birth-rate of 31·95 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 92 births registered (41 males and 51 females)—equal to an annual birth-rate of 29·66 per 1,000 of population.

I, am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

June 4th, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lancaster Rural District Council.

MIDSUMMER QUARTER.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Report for the quarter ending June 30th, 1897.

Total Deaths in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during this quarter (including 4 which occurred in the Royal Albert Asylum), 51—equal to an annual death-rate of 16·29 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 the total deaths numbered 49—equal to an annual death-rate of 15·76 per 1,000 of population.

Of these 51 deaths, 26 were those of males and 25 those of females—17 were under 5 years of age and 34 over.

During this quarter there were 2 deaths due to zymotic diseases, viz. :—1 diarrhoea and 1 measles—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of .63 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 2 deaths due to zymotic disease, viz.:—2 whooping cough—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of $\cdot 64$ per 1,000 of population.

Fifty-seven cases of infectious disease have been reported during the past quarter, namely :—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
							57

Births in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during the quarter ending June 30th, 1897, were 83--made up of 41 males and 42 females, and equal to an annual birth-rate of 26.52 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 75 births registered (39 males and 36 females)—equal to an annual birth-rate of 24.17 per 1,000 of population.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

July 17th, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lancaster Rural District Council.

MICHAELMAS QUARTER.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Report for the quarter ending September 30th, 1897.

Total Deaths in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during this quarter, 54—equal to an annual death-rate of 17·25 per 1,000 of population.

No deaths occurred in the Royal Albert Asylum.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 the total deaths numbered 41—equal to an annual death-rate of 13·18 per 1,000 of population.

Of the 54 deaths registered this quarter, 27 were those of males and 27 of females—20 were under 5 years of age and 34 over.

During this quarter there were 7 deaths due to zymotic disease, namely :—2 measles, 3 diarrhœa, and 2 enteric fever—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 2·23 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 4 fatal cases of zymotic disease, namely :—Enteric fever 2, and whooping cough 2—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of 1·28 per 1,000 of population.

One hundred and ninety-three cases of infectious disease have been reported to me during this quarter, namely :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Enteric fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Rötheln	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193

Births in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District during the quarter ending September 30th, 1897, were 93, made up of 53 males and 40 females—equal to an annual birth-rate of 29·72 per 1,000 of population.

In the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 88 births registered, made up of 44 males and 44 females—equal to an annual birth-rate of 28·27 per 1,000 of population.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

November 4th, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lancaster Rural District Council.

CHRISTMAS QUARTER.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present to you my Report for the Quarter ending December, 31st, 1897.

Total Deaths in the Lancaster Rural Sanitary District (including 6 at the Royal Albert Asylum), 42—equal to an annual death-rate of 13·42 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 36 deaths, and the death-rate was 11·90 per 1,000 of population.

Of the 42 deaths occurring during the last quarter of 1897, 24 were those of males and 18 were those of females—13 were under 5 years of age and 29 over.

During this quarter there have been two deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases—2 enteric fever—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of ·63 per 1,000 of population.

During the corresponding quarter of 1896 there was 1 death from zymotic disease—1 whooping cough—equal to an annual zymotic death-rate of ·32 per 1,000 of population.

There have been 17 cases of infectious disease reported to me during the past quarter, viz. :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	5
Enteric Fever		..	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Births in the Lancaster Rural District during the quarter ending December 31st, 1897, were 93, made up of 57 males and 36 females, and equal to an annual birth-rate of 29·72 per 1,000 of population.

In the corresponding quarter of 1896 there were 86 births (45 males and 41 females)—equal to an annual birth-rate of 27·66 per 1,000 of population.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. PARKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

January 21st, 1898.
